

PATENT

NC 83,424

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are the claims pending in the application. In response to the non-statutory double patenting rejection of Claims 1-20 as being unpatentable over individual U.S. Patent Nos. 6,673,924; 6,602,366; 6,848,926; 6,632,305; and 6,423,844, Applicants, to facilitate prosecution, have filed the appropriate terminal disclaimers (attached), related fees and 37 C.F.R. Part 3.73(b) in compliance with 37 C.F.R. Part 1.321, thus placing Claims 1-20 in condition for immediate allowance.

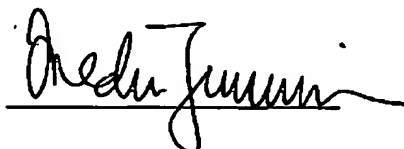
**I. Formal Matters and Conclusions**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-20, all the claims presently pending in the application, , are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 50-1114.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/29/06

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